



Proposals Due January 24, 2025; Sign up now for a webinar

## RFP Open! Beginning Farmer Competitive Grant Program

**S**YRACUSE – The New York Farm Viability Institute (NYFVI) is pleased to share that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Beginning Farmer Competitive Grant (BFCG) program is now open. The program is seeking proposals from beginning farmers who are working to build financially sustainable, independent, commercial agricultural businesses. \$850,000 will be awarded in this Statewide program.

The program is funded through the generous support of Governor Hochul and the New York State legislature. The RFP was developed with guidance from the Department of Agriculture and Markets and input from an Advisory group that included individuals from 10 organizations. Many of these mission-aligned organizations are willing to support farmers with their applications. A list of these organizations can be found [here](#).

Farmers who have not operated a farm for more than 10 years and who will materially and substantially participate in operating the farm within the State are eligible to submit proposals. It is expected that all applicants will have a serious interest in building a financially sustainable, independent commercial agricultural enterprise. Proposals may support a business that produces any type of agricultural product. The use of grant funds is deliberately broad to allow a wide range of applicants to determine what will create the strongest financial benefit for their business.

There are two funding opportunities; the proposal deadline, use of funds, and process for both opportunities are the same. The smaller Track 1 projects are anticipated to be simpler and, therefore, able to be completed in a shorter timeframe. A 5% match is required for all projects. Grants will be administered on a reimbursement basis as a project is completed.

	Minimum grant Award	Maximum grant Award	Total Funds Available	Project Duration
<b>Track 1</b>	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$300,000	18 months from contract
<b>Track 2</b>	\$50,000	\$250,000	\$550,000	24 months from contract

### Informational Sessions

NYFVI will host two webinars and is also partnering with other organizations to reach their stakeholders. [Please use this link to register.](#)

- NYFVI Webinar: Date 1: 4:00 pm Monday November 4, 2024
- NYFVI Webinar: Date 2: 9:00 am Thursday November 14 2024

Proposals must be submitted via the online system by January 24, 2025. More information, along with the full Request for Proposals and the link to the online system, can be found at [www.nyfvi.org](http://www.nyfvi.org).